

The Spartan.

SPARTANBURG:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1856.

THE FRUIT COMMITTEE.
The Fruit Committee of the Spartanburg Agricultural Society held their first meeting on Saturday last, at 4 o'clock, in the office of the Commissioner in Equity.

Two varieties of peaches were exhibited by Wm. Lockwood, Esq., viz: The Pineapple and Pumpkin. Both were very fine, but the first was deemed the most delicious.

Major J. D. Wright presented (not in competition for prizes, however) Bordeaux Peaches and White Suppersong Grapes from Pendleton. The peaches, both in flavor and size, surpassed anything we have ever seen—and these were affected by the drought.

We would say to those having fruit, to send their samples, as the Committee will meet every Saturday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, till the annual meeting.

THE NEW BAPTIST CHURCH.
Sunday last was the day fixed for the dedication of the New Baptist Church. The day proved very inclement, and much disappointment was felt. Notwithstanding this, however, a large congregation—almost equal to the capacity of the new edifice—gathered within its walls, and in a forcible manner by Rev. Thomas Curtis, D. D., the new house of worship was dedicated to the Lord. Messrs. Furman and Landrum assisted.

During the latter part of the day the rain was so heavy as to render intermission of services indispensable. A protracted meeting is still being held in the church.

RAIN STORM.
On Sunday a furious storm of wind and rain passed over us, which continued till an early hour on Monday morning. As far as we can learn it proved general throughout the District, swelling our water courses and inundating the lowlands. Much damage is feared to the corn crops on the bottoms, and apprehensions are entertained for the safety of several bridges on the streams.

The mails due on Tuesday morning failed to arrive, and we are thus again left without news from below.

LATEST FROM KANSAS.
A despatch from Washington of the 28th ult. says that official despatches from General Persier F. Smith say that the recent reports from Kansas are greatly exaggerated.

CONGRESS.
On the 27th ult. both Houses appointed a committee of conference upon the army bill.

The House passed a resolution to adjourn on the 29th. The Senate has not acted on the resolution.

SOUTHERN QUARTERLY REVIEW.
The Southern Quarterly Review, for September: Columbia, S. C., Edward H. Britton & Co., Publishers: \$5 per annum, in advance.

This able periodical, under the editorial auspices of the Rev. Dr. Thornwell, is a regular and most welcome visitant. The richness and variety of its articles make it a work of most intrinsic value. Over them all there is diffused a moral fragrance that renders it extremely desirable, as well as eminently conducive to the culture of a fine moral taste. No one can read its articles without feeling his intellectual and moral nature refreshed and strengthened by the agreeable and wholesome exercise. The thorough, all-pervading purity of its contributions refine and elevate the taste of its readers, while it imparts a degree of moral and mental vitality acquirable from no other sources of a kindred literature. Unlike our monthlies, it possesses no outward, visible, pictorial illustrations, and all the expansive adjuncts with which many of them are so extensively popularized. The literature, like pure coin, is heavy, solid, elastic. Its images are reflections of an editorial mind so rich in lore, that they sparkle with diamonds of the first water. There is neither the levity of thought nor the frivolities of language in any of its departments.

Its criticisms are just, and delivered with an impartiality and a devotion to truth that invests them with an air of justice and kindness. The asperities of a sour temper nowhere jagged and roughen the flow of good feeling and kindness of spirit which so signally characterize them.

There is a catholicity of feeling running through them, whether the subject be religious, literary, or political, that shows the ministerial pen is restrained; while the critical pen of a gentleman of tender sensibilities and ardent sympathies outpours the decisions of a clear, comprehensive, and discriminating mind. With Dr. Thornwell on the tripod, we need expect nothing but what is beautiful, moral, and instructive in all its pages. Why, then, should it not command a higher circulation. At the price of five dollars it should diffuse itself, by its own merits, into every nook and corner of Southern society. A Southern literature is a desideratum all acknowledge. Our position—social, political, and geographical—requires it. To depend upon the North for every supply of intellectual food is to import poison and Northern fallacies in morals, politics, and religion. Their literature has become so tainted with their anti-Southern dogmas, disguised in language that the taint falls upon us ere we are aware of its presence. The purchase of their books rises to a hazard, so completely unsafe are their moral teachings.

Let the South, then, direct her patronage to such periodicals as the Southern Quarterly. It is a Southern work, published under a Southern name, by Southern men, and edited by a Southern man of highest abilities.

FAIR OF STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
The South Carolina Agricultural Society hopes it will be borne in mind by the people of South Carolina and the adjacent States, that the First Fair of the State Agricultural Society of this State will commence on Tuesday, the 11th November, 1856, and continue for four days. The Premium List embraces a wide field in all matters connected with industrial improvements, the fine arts, rural tastes, &c., and will furnish opportunities for competition in almost every development of industrial enterprise. The building will furnish room for several thousand persons, who can be protected in inclement weather, whilst all the arrangements will be complete, and well suited to the occasion. All the railroads of the State will transport passengers to and from the Fair for one fare, and all articles will be transported by them free, at the risk of the owner. The different railroads will publish their respective regulations in time for the Fair. We have thus far the prospect of a fine meeting.

THE RAILROAD CONVENTION.—This body (says the Asheville Spectator of the 28th ult.) is now in session while we go to press. It was organized by the election of Gen. W. F. Jones, of Henderson, as President. We notice in attendance Messrs. H. W. Gaion, President of the Wilmington & Raleigh R. R.; Mr. Merrin, President of the Greenville & Columbia R. R.; Col. Jno. Baxter, President of the French Broad Road; Col. B. S. Gaither, Dr. M. Carriger, President of the Cincinnati, C. & G. R. R.; W. H. Thomas, Esq.; Dr. C. Mills, and others. We will give the proceedings in detail in our next.

THE COWPENS MONUMENT.
We find the following publication in the Charleston papers.

We publish with much pleasure the following letter from the patriotic ladies of Spartanburg to the Washington Light Infantry, of this city. It is a graceful and grateful tribute to their gallantry and public spirit, and will, no doubt, be prized by them as among their most cherished trophies.

Spartanburg, C. H., S. C., Aug. 8, 1856.

To L. M. Hatch, Captain of the Washington Light Infantry, Charleston, S. C.:

Enclosed we send you a deed for one acre of land surrounding the Monument erected by your patriotic corps to the memory of the brave men who fought and fell at the memorable battle of the Cowpens in this District.

Through the agency of Major G. W. H. Legg, we have purchased it from the owner, for the Washington Light Infantry and their successors; and, though the offering is small, it is nevertheless, an unfeigned expression of pride and gratitude, which goes out from our overflowing hearts—pride that we have among us citizens of our beloved State, whose act, in erecting this Monument by the toil and labor of their own hands, proves them worthy to bear the name of a noble ancestry; gratitude to God, that it is permitted to us to make this humble but willing tribute to your devotion to the memory of those whose deeds of valor and renown won the liberties that we now enjoy.

May you, and each of you, long and enjoy your richest blessings. Among which we will endeavor to make your annual visits to this emblem and monument of past and present patriotism the most pleasant and agreeable.

We subscribe ourselves, with sentiments of the highest esteem, yours, &c.

Mrs. J. D. Wright.
Mrs. J. W. Carline.
Mrs. G. W. H. Legg.
Mrs. S. Robo.
Mrs. Dr. J. E. Boyd.
Mrs. W. H. Trimmer.
Mrs. G. W. Moore.
Mrs. A. H. Kirby.
Mrs. T. C. Davis.
Mrs. J. L. Warren.
Mrs. Dr. L. C. Kennedy.
Mrs. J. H. Goss.
Mrs. W. C. Bennett.

Mrs. T. S. Farrow.
Mrs. D. G. Finley.
Mrs. J. A. Lee.
Mrs. H. Mitchell.
Mrs. O. E. Edwards.
Mrs. J. B. Tolson.
Mrs. T. O. P. Vernon.
Mrs. J. Epton.
Mrs. J. M. Root.
Mrs. J. L. Warren.
Mrs. Dr. R. E. Cleve.
Mrs. J. H. Goss.
Mrs. J. Farrow.

We understand that a Gold-Headed Walking Cane, of Palmetto Wood, has been sent to Spartanburg by the Washington Light Infantry; the disposition of which is intrusted to the above ladies. As no ground of merit has been indicated, it rests with them to determine what gentleman shall wear the honor thus placed within their suffrage. They can either act in concert, or by any other mode suggest their preference. We beg, however, to recommend the following as the simplest plan:

Let each lady on the list direct to us a sealed vote by the 13th instant, with the name of the gentleman on whom she thinks the prize should be bestowed. Whoever secures the largest vote will thus receive the Cane.

REPUBLICAN IDEA OF DISSOLUTION.
The North affects to believe that the Union cannot be dissolved by the machinations of the Black Republicans, and to some extent this idea has been encouraged by mistaken declarations of Southern papers. Mr. Melton, of the Yorkville Enquirer, has met this view at Washington, where he is now on a visit, and alludes to it in his correspondence. It is to be regretted that any editor, for any purpose, whether of policy or patriotism, should give currency at this time to facts or inferences calculated to invite aggression upon the institutions of the country, and imperil still further a government almost on the verge of dissolution.

Mr. Melton says:

"For this unfortunate mistake into which the Northern people have fallen, we are at home, I fear, much to blame. The Republican papers at the North endeavor, of course, to moralize, but their success depends upon it; and as an argument, which I have not even had the courage to try to answer, they quote the candid admissions of Southern papers of this position—South Carolina papers—'the Charleston Standard' and the 'Carolina Times' and others, that there exists even in South Carolina a large body of citizens—the non-slaveholders—who are inimical to slavery, love the Union, who are abolitionists at heart. They 'slave power,' they say, is sufficiently strong now to smother this sentiment; but when the great issue is at hand, it will make itself felt and will triumph. I know the gentlemen who conduct these journals, and I cannot for a moment doubt their motives. This, however, but places me the more completely at a loss how to account for their unequivocal declarations. Suppose them true—a supposition not to be indulged, except for the sake of argument—and it is certainly the most palpable violation of the most common sense view of good policy to publish them to the world. Let me tell them, in all candor, that by such a course they are staining our cause to the very death—fanning the flame of fanaticism at the North, and check-mating every effort of the friends of Southern rights here and there. This is earnest, candid truth, and as I know and speak advisedly, I hope it will be so regarded."

WASHINGTON AND THE UNION.
The President No. of Harper gives the following extract from the fourth of July Oration of Rev. Geo. W. Bethune, D. D., at the inauguration of the Washington State in Union Square, New York. If such exorcism become general in that section of the Union, we think the Devil that now make the lower House of Congress a pandemonium, and the lesser ones that stimulate their wild and hellish orgies, will soon be driven out, and peace again reign throughout our borders. The following is the passage, eloquent in conceit, forcible in figure, and true in assertion:

"God made Washington, and gave him to us, in himself the type of what our republic should be, in all its elements great, even consistent—each vigorous, each pure, each free, yet all held in harmonious balance by the unity of a single right, the God-given work survived him. Survived him? No. He still lives, though his mortal frame has long been dead. God, who gave, kept that life with us when our spirit is lost—when our elements revolt from their course, and, like the nations among the tombs whose graves were legion; we cut and tear ourselves—this fair confederacy will soon lie beneath the heavens the most mangled, lathsome corpse that ever polluted the breath of humanity with its putrefaction. Send of the deities are in us now. Oh, for the God of our fathers to drive them out and down into the sea of an infamous oblivion!"

ONE'S.
When Congress passed the bill providing for the annexation of Texas to the Union, the arm of the Genes of America, holding the scroll of the Constitution, on the tympanum of the Capitol at Washington, dropped off at the elbow. John Quincy Adams read the incident as indicative of violation of the Constitution, and a virtual dissolution of the Union.

In a similar way we read the following event, over which the Northern press is most eloquent with regret:

"The 'Charter Oak' fell this morning, 21st, at 12:34 o'clock, with a tremendous crash, and six feet of the stump now remains. This famous tree was far past its prime when the charter was framed in it on the 9th of May, 1689, and was probably an old tree when Columbus discovered the New World. Crowds of citizens are visiting the ruins, and each one bears away a portion of the venerable tree."

The significance of this calamity to the charter oak is in the fact, that on the very day of its fall, viz: the 21st August, the Black Republican House of Congress, in Extra Session, defied the army appropriation bill a second time, thus inaugurating revolution and inviting evil war.

Hon. I. W. Stuart, owner of the soil around this holy and honored Oak, was formerly Professor of Chemical Literature in the South Carolina College, at Columbia.

The New York Day Book, in a list of 715 new subscribers added in one week to its circulation, includes fifty from South Carolina. Right—send on for the Day Book; it tells the North the truth about the South, and about itself.

OUR FRIENDS IN KANSAS.
Although not so late as other news from Kansas, the following extract from a letter from A. J. Sanders, which we find in the Unionville Journal, possesses local interest, as it contains facts in reference to some of our friends in Kansas. It is borne date Aug. 3, Leavenworth City:

"Our company is stationed at Leavenworth City, and will remain here until our services are needed. Four of our company are now on a scout in the territory—Capt. McKim, Col. W. D. Camp, W. L. Lipscomb, and J. M. Mills, with four others, under the command of Capt. Butler, of Carolina. We have heard of them once since they left. They were attacked by the abolitionists—we can learn how many. We have sent nineteen others to their relief on good horses, and armed and equipped for war. The abolitionists who attacked Capt. Butler's company have burned several houses and killed several pro-slavery men within the last few days. I did think we could have peace for a while, but there is no peace here—we don't know what that is in this territory; and I am afraid we will not know what it is until we have a general war, and that is now close at hand, from the report that is now afloat. We will in a few days have to march to our friends' aid. Not only what few men we have here, but you at home will have to move this way, or we will be lost. Will Carolina do any more? Will she send any more men here to help us fight through this struggle, this glorious struggle? You must know at home, we need your assistance here. We will ask of you once more, to come to our aid. We have kept the abolitionists down so far, but we can no longer do it—they are overpowering us and you know when we are overpowered we must sink. But we will fight them as long as there is one of us left. The Leavenworth Journal of the 13th ult. contains the following particulars of further movements of our friends:

FOR THE INTERIOR.—We understand that Capt. Fleming, of Columbia, S. C., started on Thursday last for the "Big Blue" to secure claims, with the following Company:

"Captain J. G. Fleming; 1st Lieutenant, L. W. Jones; 2d Lieutenant, W. B. Anderson; Orderly Sgt., J. A. DaMour; Privates: W. A. Lipscomb, S. Jones, A. J. Sanders, P. C. McKim, T. W. Johnson, W. T. McArthur, F. R. Page, J. L. J. Rice, A. A. Brown, Ed. Statin, J. M. Folsom, S. C. Turner, Thos. J. J. Foster, Thomas McGill, A. S. Bailey, G. W. Moore, W. L. Lipscomb, J. S. Brown, Mr. Kimbra, Mr. Ware, Mr. Smith, T. G. Dendy, K. R. Page, R. E. Kelly, &c."

"The Company is composed of the right kind of material, and we may look for favorable accounts from them. They are men of tried and known calibre, and are an honor to the Territory. They will be an invincible barrier to the assaults of the Land Pirate Brown and his minions. They bear with them the best wishes of the community."

TYGER RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.
The 23rd anniversary meeting of the Tyger-River Baptist Association was held at New Prospect Church, Spartanburg District, beginning on the 15th ult. From the Minutes, now in course of publication, we glean the following facts:

No. Baptized in all the churches..... 746
" Received by letter..... 176
" Dead..... 63
Total membership..... 4,056
Whole amount contributed to missions, &c..... \$433.57
Expended in sustaining colporteur 280.00
Balance home mission fund on hand 177.09
Rev. D. Hilliard, colporteur, reports in the year sale of books to the value of \$298.40. Visits and scriptures read 1,393 times. Instruction 648 times. Sermons 174.

The next meeting of the Association will be held at Holly Springs Church, 18 miles northwest of Spartanburg, C. H., on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in August next.

TO CANDIDATES FOR THE LEGISLATURE.
GENTLEMEN: As there is a difference of opinion in reference to the position you severally occupy on the subject of the South Carolina College, will you please answer at your earliest convenience the following questions:

1st. Are you in favor of destroying the South Carolina College?

2d. Are you in favor of withdrawing all State aid from that institution?

3d. If you are opposed to the present appropriation, but in favor of some aid, to what extent are you in favor of aiding that institution?

MY ANSWERS.

For the Carolina Spartan.

THE INTERROGATORIES.
MEMOR. EDITORS: As one of those who had some agency in propounding the questions so generally answered by the candidates for the Legislature, and forming the basis of the canvass thus far, I must confess my surprise at the contempt with which their importance was treated in the speech of Mr. Farrow on Saturday, and his avowed belief that they were prepared for the express purpose of breaking him down. For one I disown such a purpose, and strip him of this refuge for sympathy.

Without stopping to inquire how such a miserable batch of silly questions, as he assumes them to be, could prove so disastrous to his prospects, I beg to inquire how they could effect such a result on him, and not be equally fatal to others, when in fact most every speech he has made during the canvass, as I have before intimated, he announced that the candidates occupied almost identically the same ground? To himself I leave the reconciliation of this contradiction.

But this was not all. Not only were these questions purely, but others of great and transcending importance, vital to the people in all their interests, were indicated—the rights of married women, property laws, indentured, &c. Doubtless these possess interest, insofar as they propose changes in existing laws and customs. But I beg to differ as to their importance, inasmuch as they do not involve taxation and appropriations. Questions affecting these topics have always been deemed most important in government; but it may have been a foolish idea of the American Colonies to revolt from Great Britain because she assumed the right to tax the people without giving them equivalent representation, and a voice in the ultimate disposition of the revenues raised by taxation.

One word more: If these questions were silly, Spartanburg is not alone in the folly of having put them forward. Anderson, Edgefield, and Fairfield are involved, each in part, in the absurdity.

Perhaps, after all, it might not be uncharitable to conclude that the questions have seriously embarrassed Mr. Farrow in the canvass, and hence, as an electioneering trick, he seeks to weaken their importance by distracting the public mind from their consideration.

ONE OF "MANY VOTERS."

The New York correspondent of the Charleston Courier says that a gentleman from Buffalo offered to bet another, from the same city, \$10,000 to \$5,000 that Buchanan would get the vote of New York. The bet was not taken.

Another correspondent of the same paper furnishes the difference, in distance and cost, of three routes of travel between Charleston and Weldon, worthy the attention of travellers, viz: 1. The South Carolina Railroad, via Wilmington and Manchester, to Weldon, 436 miles, \$15. 2. The South Carolina Railroad, via Charlotte and Goldsboro, to Weldon, 534 miles, \$18.50. 3. The South Carolina, via Charlotte and Raleigh, to Weldon, 505 miles, \$19.35. Through tickets will reduce the charges on the latter lines, but cheapness is still in favor of No. 1.

The Memphis (Tenn.) Appeal of the 12th ult. says that a political discussion in Dresden Hon. Linn Boyd Clark, G. D. Blakeley, of Ohio. The latter is a Black Republican elector.

DECLINATION.
Editors of the Spartan.

DEAR SIRS: I assume my name has been announced in your paper by many friends as a Candidate for the Legislature. It was done unknown to me, and against my wish. While I feel under lasting obligations to my friends, for the confidence they seem to repose in my competency to represent them, I beg leave to decline being a candidate.

The effects of a very severe attack of typhus fever, several years since, has compelled me to avoid crowded assemblies as much as possible, at this season of the year, which would hinder me from making the acquaintance I would like to make with the people of the District in the short space from now until the election. But, if I was elected to the Legislature, I think I should be in favor of the following course:

I should not only favor the election of President and Vice-President by general ticket, but our Governor also. Much of the odium, in my opinion, heaped upon South Carolina by other States of the Union, is on account of these officers being withheld from the people.

The money collected for Free School purposes should certainly be equally divided among the free white population of the State. I here offer some of the remarks of Gov. Adams, in his last Annual Message, on this subject, which I think he deserves great credit for:

"The distribution should be in proportion to white population. If the State undertakes to raise a fund to educate the poor, it should be spent where it is most needed. Under the present method no more money is allowed in one section for the education of five or six hundred children, than in another for one or two dozen."

Certainly the members of the up-country will not favor the South Carolina College, until an equal distribution is made upon the plan proposed.

The Jurisdiction of Magistrates, I think, ought to be raised, accompanied by a stay of the debt for a few months. It would certainly be unwise to sell a large amount of property at short notice; it would often fail to bring its worth.

In conclusion, I must say that all possible economy should be exercised by the Legislature, as well as by the several boards of commissioners of the district. An extra session of the Legislature every four years, costing the State several thousand dollars to vote for President and Vice-President, should be remedied.

A. BONNER.

[For the Carolina Spartan.]
COLLEGE OR NO COLLEGE.
MEMOR. EDITORS: The cause of education is one which vitally concerns the people, not of this District alone, but of our whole State and our whole country. As a friend, therefore, to that most important cause—without any disposition to engage in any controversy, local or general, respecting "the South Carolina College"—I desire to present my own views upon the general subject as follows:

The public sentiment of the entire population of this Republic has agreed in nothing more fully and steadily, than that it is the bounden duty of State governments to provide and sustain institutions of learning for the education of the people of each State. Nor have common schools and grammar schools been deemed sufficient. ONE COLLEGE, at least, of high order, in which the sons of the State could receive a thorough and finished education, has been deemed a prime necessity; and for the founding and the support of such an institution provision has been made in all the older States of the Union. The newer ones are following that example—ay, outstripping, in many instances, the old. With commendable zeal and liberality, our patriotic fathers laid deep and broad the foundation for education in South Carolina. Up to the present day, the most liberal provision has been made for the support of the South Carolina College, by the Legislature, from the treasury of the State—all her governors and leading statesmen approving fully of these appropriations.

Recently it has been intimated, in some sections of the State, that the continued support of the College in that manner was unjust to the people—an oppression not to be borne—and that the annual State appropriation should be withheld, come what would of the College!

Before proceeding, however, to any rash or destructive measures, it might be well to reflect, that all the adjacent States have their State Colleges, and those well sustained—doing also a great and good work in the cause of education—that, notwithstanding the numerous other colleges in each of them, sustained by religious denominations or private munificence.

Can it be, then, that any citizen of this State—any Carolinian—or any freeman, fed from her soil and protected by her laws—would, for any pecuniary, or selfish interest, willingly see South Carolina degraded to such depths of infamy, in the presence of her sister States—ay, and of the whole world—as to be without a State College—see her, as a State, doing nothing toward the training of her own sons in the higher departments of learning? And that to save the paltry sum of a few thousand dollars yearly for its support? No! Take heed to me, there is not one of you who would wish to see the State of South Carolina with a State College inferior to those of her sister States! But let any man look back to those of North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, and he will at once see the necessity of a continued ample support from other sources than the tuition fees, if the South Carolina College is to occupy a footing of full equality with theirs! For there is no first class college in the Union that is not sustained, in part by either legislative appropriations or the income of vested funds set apart for that purpose!

The case, then, in my estimation, is narrowed down to this: The College cannot be done away, without at once State degradation, and great loss to the cause of public education! Sustained, then, it must be. But it can be sustained only in one of two ways—by continuing the annual appropriations, or endeavoring it by investing a permanent fund, the income of which shall be thus appropriated. Until the latter is done, the former must be continued.

I am far from believing, however, that appropriations so large as hitherto made will in future be required—now that college buildings, library, apparatus, and every needful outfit is provided. The most rigid economy at least should be practiced. And if there have been abuses and mismanagement in regard to anything relating to the institution, they should be pointed out and corrected. "HERONS, NOT WRECKERS," should be the watchword of every friend of education—every lover of his State.

I here take occasion also to say, that I have regretted exceedingly to notice the appearance, at least of some degree of hostility to some of the friends of the denominational colleges against the State College—the same also from the advocates of the State institution against those not sustained by the State.

This is all wrong—yes, all wrong and ruinous. All those institutions are needed. They are all doing a good work. There is more also to be done in the great cause of education than they can all do. It were wise and becoming, then, in the friends of each, to let the other alone—nay, help each other on in all their aims and attempts at doing good. Thus may they all prosper and prove an inalienable blessing to our State and country. To war upon each other is to weaken, to degrade and to destroy—no good thereby accruing to any one.

Yours, truly,
A FRIEND OF EDUCATION.

CORRESPONDENCE.
Convention of American Teachers of Deaf and Dumb—Town of Staunton—Population—Benevolent Institutions—Visit to the Weyer Case.

The first convention of this kind was held in the city of New York, in August 1850, at the close of which, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That in view of the present apparent good results of this first experiment, of a convention of the Institute of the Deaf and Dumb in the United States, the members of this convention have much cause for mutual congratulation, and much encouragement for the future; and that it is desirable that a convention of this body should take place one year hence, at some convenient time and place, to be designated by the general committee."

This committee was composed of the principals of the different institutions then organized, who by conference agreed to meet at the American Institution, at Hartford, on the 27th August, 1851. At this convention the following papers were read, and the various subjects proposed discussed: "1. Course of Instruction for the Deaf and Dumb." 2. "Elements of the Language of Signs." 3. "Suggestions on certain varieties of the Language of Signs as used in the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb." 4. "High Schools for the Deaf and Dumb." 5. "Sketch of the life of Baron de Gerando." 6. "On the use of Methodical Signs." 7. "Natural history as a branch of study for the Deaf and Dumb." 8. "Scrofula among the Deaf and Dumb." 9. "Hints to the Teachers of the Deaf and Dumb." 10. "Lect. Mute Idioma." 11. "The Mode of teaching Language." 12. Notice of James Edward Mayne, a deaf, dumb and blind young man."

The proceedings of this, as well as the previous convention, were published in pamphlet form, of some two hundred pages.

A third was appointed to be held at Columbus, Ohio, on the fourth Wednesday of August, 1852. But owing to the death of the principal of the Institution at that place, the meeting was informal, and by re-appointment met on the 10th of August, 1853. Subjects equally important were brought before the convention, discussed, and the proceedings published. Staunton, Virginia, was selected for the next meeting, to take place in 1855. But owing to a report of small pox in that town about the time when the convention should have met, by consent it was deferred until the 13th August, the present year.

I had carefully read the proceedings of the different conventions and felt a deep anxiety to be present. When Virginia was selected for the place of the meeting of the fourth convention, I determined, if possible, to attend. Consequently, as several of my friends know, I was on the point of leaving last year, when I received notice of small pox, and the consequent postponement of the meeting. This year we have been able to meet as above stated, and, although my expectations were excited to a high degree, the pleasure and benefit realized transcended all.

Among my first wishes in regard to persons, was that to see the man who gave the first regular instruction to a deaf mute in North America. At this convention, on the 13th day of August, I was introduced to that person, Professor Clero, now an active instructor in the American Institution. He is indeed a venerable man. His head is not as gray as I expected to see it. He is seventy years, seven months, and eighteen days old the day I was introduced to him. In his place, on the 7th of January, 1852, he said, in an autobiographical sketch, "I was born in La Balme, Canton of Geneva, Department of Jura, on the 26th of December, 1785." "When I was about a year old, I was left alone for a few moments on a chair by the fire, and it happened, I know not how, that I fell into the fire, and so badly burned my right cheek that the scar of it is still visible; and my parents were under the impression that this accident deprived me of my senses of hearing and smelling."

It is true, the establishment of the first institution in America is attributed to Mr. Gallaudet, who, when in London in 1815, met with, and was introduced to, M. Clero, and his preceptor, Abbe Sicard. They were there for the purpose of making a public exhibition of his (Abbe Sicard's) system of instruction. I should remark, the celebrated Massieu was present.

Mr. Gallaudet encountered unexpected delays in obtaining admission as a pupil into the London Asylum—in consequence of a disposition then and there prevailing to keep the method of instruction a secret.

The Braidwood family had charge of the Edinburgh institution, established in 1795 or '96. Mr. John Braidwood came to America in 1812, doubtless for the purpose of introducing the system. And when Mr. Gallaudet applied to Mr. Thomas Braidwood to release Mr. Kinneburgh from his obligation of secrecy to the Braidwood family, in order that he (Mr. Gallaudet) might obtain information on the subject, he received the reply from Mr. Thomas Braidwood, "that his brother was in America, and that liberal encouragement on the part of your (Gallaudet's) countrymen will be followed by the most strenuous exertions of my brother to deserve it."

It seems that Mr. John Braidwood had been induced to come to the State of Virginia, to instruct the children of some wealthy citizens of that State, though I am not informed that such instruction ever took place. And though Gallaudet was the founder of the first institution, it was done by the efficient aid of Mr. Clero, whom he brought for an assistant from the French school at Paris. And I take it that the first regular instruction was given by Mr. Clero, because he was really the teacher of Mr. Gallaudet, while he remained in the French school.

Here, too, in the Staunton Convention, I met Dr. H. P. Peet, president of the New York institution. He is the next oldest man in the profession, and perhaps inferior to none. To him we are much indebted for the information given in his report after a visit to the European institutions in the summer of 1851. But particularly are we indebted to him for a satisfactory report of the celebrated English lawyer, Mr. Lowe, who has been so often referred to by the advocates of the German basis of instruction by articulation. Garbled statements have floated throughout newspaperdom that he, though congenitally deaf, and consequently dumb, could articulate so distinctly as to be heard at the bar. Hear what Dr. Peet says of this man: "He has the reputation of being able to read several languages, and certainly uses the English language with an unexceptionable degree of correctness, very rare in a deaf mute. He is an attorney at law, and is in business sufficiently to procure him a respectable support. He pleads no causes, such as giving advice, and making conveyances." The statement in the North British Review, that "a stranger might exchange several sentences with him before discovering that he is totally deaf," is set at rights by his own declaration during this same interview more fully: "that he communicates with his clients by writing, and that his ordinary medium of intercourse with his family is not vocal speech, but the manual alphabet and writing."

By means of this report, made by Dr. Peet, we have been enabled before us the number of the principal European institutions, their localities, names of presidents and teachers, number of pupils, internal domestic arrangements, modes of instruction, &c., &c., including much statistical information.

This tour not only had the effect to place this in-

formation before the world, but also to bring the tourist and informant in deep and abiding sympathy with the entire profession in both hemispheres.

Time would fail me to speak of Messrs. Foster, Stone, Keop, Morris, Melville, and the host of other like spirits, whose intellectual, moral, religious and social bearings, rendered our Convention an object of special regard.

In this as in past Conventions, subjects of great importance, especially to the younger members, were introduced and explained. Particularly that of the "Colloquial Language of the Deaf and Dumb," "Methodical Signs," "Special Signs," "Government of Institutions," were interesting to me, as I had not been able to be in previous discussions of the kind. By these associations we discover how far the language is conventional as used in different institutions. And I assure you, it was a source of no little gratification to me, to know that in the South Carolina institution the correct signs were used generally, with no more discrepancy than is common in the localisms of a language used throughout so large a country. Indeed, the philosophy of the language to a young teacher is of the highest importance, in order to be successful in imparting, or rather generating, ideas in the mind of a deaf and dumb child. Signs, however gracefully made, like words, have little influence until you attach to them and force ideas into them. And I believe it is agreed to by all experienced teachers in our profession, that while we must ever respect the usages of the past, inventive genius must be held in the highest requisition. So that, instead of the method governing the teacher, he must be able to govern the method, thus presenting into it a service new and untried expressions as the complexity of thought demands. Not as innovations, but further developments of a living, progressive language.

Among other items of business was the establishment of a Quarterly Periodical, entitled "The American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb," designed as a means of communication for the different institutions, and such matters as may be introduced under the care of the editor. Rather, I should say, perpetuated, inasmuch as a work of the kind has been issued for some time past in some form.

After the passage of a series of resolutions, usual on such occasions, the convention agreed to hold its next meeting at the Illinois institution, located in Jacksonville. This meeting to take place two years hence.

Among the resolutions passed, was one commendatory of the manner in which the president of the convention, Hon. James W. Skinner, son of Commodore Skinner, discharged the duties of his position. This drew out from him one of the most affectionate responses it has been my fortune to hear. Having deaf and dumb relations, he was the more prepared to sympathize with those engaged for the welfare of such. The moment was of intense feeling.

A report was presented, and the whole proceedings will be put to press in form as heretofore.

N. P. W.

Since writing this article, I found an extract in the American Annals, from the Report of the Ohio Institution of 1840, stating "systematic" instruction was given in Goodrich county, Virginia, and the year 1842, in the family of Col. William Bowling, by John Braidwood, though his (Braidwood's) "errand was not followed by any very important result, either to Col. Bowling's children, or to any other American deaf and dumb." So that I may not be mistaken in Prof. Clero being the first systematic American teacher.

The brother and sister of Col. Bowling, John and Mary, were educated in Edinburgh by the elder Braidwood—entered in 1795 or '96. Supposed to be the first American deaf and dumb who were educated.

N. P. W.

NOTE BY THE EDITORS.—When our correspondent reached Staunton, Va., he found a report that a water pocket, over the tunnel through the Blue Ridge, near that town, had been tapped in the progress of the excavations, and that an immense volume of water was projected through the mouth of the tunnel. The story was a hoax, gotten up to impose upon the Baltimore Sun. The story was extensively credited, not only at home, but throughout the country; and it is not wonderful, in this age of wonders, that our matter-of-fact friend should have given credence to what bore the impress of truth, and deceived those in the immediate neighborhood. [Eos. SPARTAN.]

IMPORTANT FROM KANSAS.
ST. LOUIS, Aug. 27.—Kansas advocates state that 2500 men from Missouri would enter Kansas on the 23d.

Four hundred of Lane's men were posted on the Kansas river to intercept all relief to Leecompton. Gen. Richardson at the head of a large body of territorial militia had gone to the northwestern part of Kansas to intercept Lane's retreat.

At Lexington, Mo., 500 men were under arms, and Gen. Price expected orders from the President to take the field. Gen. Smith declines interfering with the Missourians while they confine operations to Lane's forces.

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—Advices from Kansas state that 18 Missourians attacked Tucker's mission and demanded persons there to deliver up their horses in the name of the Territory. The demand being refused, the assailants went to work to execute their threats.

The Missourians were concentrating at Leavenworth, Westport and Kansas City.

Quaker City had been sacked by the Georgians on Friday, but the inhabitants escaped.

EXCITEMENT AT SPRINGFIELD.—WASHINGTON, August 28.—Advices from Springfield, Mass., state that two hundred men have been discharged from the army there in pursuance of orders from Washington, and that the greatest excitement prevails.

The members of Congress received their pay, at the close of the late session, under the new law, viz: at the rate of \$3,000 since March 4, 1855. Deduction was made for absence, and the book business has been discontinued. This will cut off one source of corruption. Milne for only the regular session is allowed.

The Boston Atlas hears that the venerable Chancellor Kent goes for Fremont for President. This will be difficult, as the law makes no provision for spiritual voters, and the Chancellor has been dead some eight years.

A meddling collector of railroad Presidential votes, without knowing his man, chanced to ask Col. Benton lately how he meant to vote, and got this reply:

"Sir, by what authority, sir, do you ask me for whom I shall vote? Sir, I will answer that question at the ballot box, not to you."

At the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of Jefferson College, Pa., the degree of LL. D. was conferred on President McCay, of South Carolina College.

The Edgefield Advertiser says that the Hon. F. W. Pickens is the choice and preference of Edgefield for Governor.

Hon. Wm. Aiken, in a card to his constituents of Charleston District, declines re-election to Congress.

Thomas C. Reynolds, formerly of Charleston, but now of Missouri, and lately the Southern Rights Democratic candidate, fought a duel with Mr. Brown, the editor of a free press paper. The latter was wounded in the knee.

Late advices from Nicaragua represent Walker's condition as very gloomy, and it is thought impossible he can hold out unless he receive speedy assistance.

It is stated that iron ore, very rare and of immense value, has been discovered at Deep River, in Chatham county, N. C., and that a large amount of foreign capital is about to be invested in its development.

Would plunder their native land in civil wars?

A protracted Methodist meeting was held near Kingsport, Tennessee, recently. On the 4th day of the services 91 persons were added to the church. The preaching labors at the meeting were Townsend and Dabney.

An English chemist, by experiment, has ascertained that the 5-1000 part of a grain of strychnine will produce spasms and convulsions in a frog. A medical journal speaks of this as a means of detecting poison where foot play is suspected, and only a minute particle remains after analysis.

S. P. C. Justice and Matilda J. Carson were married on the 7th ult., in Macon county, N. C. She has "taken hold on justice."

In Bamcoombe, on the 17th, A. H. Israel and Mary Ann Watkins were united.

Strong-minded women, in this case, might say, all are not "Israel, which are of Israel."

In Henderson there was another—Thomas E. Jordan and Sarah C. Rogers.

Hope she won't find Jordan a hard road to travel.

A new Post Office has been established in Greenville District, called Dublin, and A. G. Jackson appointed Postmaster.

A clerk in Gamble's hotel, Wimsboro, (says the Register,) named Buford, attempted to kidnap a slave from the hotel. He left, and was arrested at Greensboro, N. C., with the negro, brought back, is now in Fairfield jail awaiting trial.

The apple crop of Massachusetts has proved almost a complete failure. The hay crop of Maine is reduced one-third from last year.

The Boston Courier contains a card signed by the Hon. Edward Everett, Hon. Wm. Appleton, Hon. R. C. Winthrop, and a large number of other Whigs of that city, expressing themselves in favor of the election of Mr. Fillmore to the Presidency.

Fort George is the name of a new post office in Pickens District.

Gen. L. M. Ayer, of Barnwell, with his company of 20 volunteers, had reached Atkinson, Kansas.

The hog crop of Kentucky is estimated at half of last season. Fat hogs, for future delivery, are now selling at 43 per pound.

The Chester Standard notices as the result of a camp meeting at Mt. Prospect, in that district, that 26 whites and 70 colored members were added to the M. E. Church. At Rossville quarterly meeting 13 whites and several colored were also received on probation.

The "Southern" newspaper of Orangeburg, S. C., is offered for sale by Henry Ellis & Co., proprietors. The outfit is new, and it is the only paper in that district.

The Fillmore State Committee of Massachusetts, has nominated Amos A. Lawrence for Governor.

Prof. J. H. Carline lectured in Camden on the 29th ultimo.

A severe frost visited Lancaster county, Pa., in July last, doing considerable injury to vegetation.

The Washington Sentinel, established as a Southern organ, has been discontinued.

Mr. Meacham, a member of Congress from Vermont, died in Middlebury, on the 23d instant.

Congress has made no provision for giving premiums to steamships. Contracts now existing expire in six months, and then all will be put on an equal footing.

LUCK IS A JEWEL.—The Capital prize of \$20,000 in the Fort Gates Academy Lottery, Class 17, drawn in Athens, Ga., July 28, under the management of Messrs. Samuel Swan & Co., was drawn by the following gentlemen, of Shelby, Ky., and the following gentlemen, of North Carolina, who have kindly volunteered the use of their names to the managers: Messrs. W. L. Hopson, J. F. Stephens, A. W. Burton, M. L. Carroll, and Dr. Thos. Williams.